



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Distr.: General
9 March 2015

Original: English

Trade and Development Board

Trade and Development Commission

Seventh session

Geneva, 18–22 May 2015

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Reports of expert meetings
 - (a) Reports of the multi-year expert meetings:
 - (i) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation
 - (ii) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development
 - (iii) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Promoting Economic Integration and Cooperation
 - (iv) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Enhancing the Enabling Environment at All Levels in Support of Inclusive and Sustainable Development
 - (b) Reports of the single-year expert meetings:
 - (i) Expert Meeting on the Impact of Access to Financial Services, including by Highlighting Remittances on Development: Economic Empowerment of Women and Youth
 - (ii) Expert Meeting on Social Inclusion Programmes and Their Impact on Sustainable and Inclusive Development and Growth
 - (c) Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy
4. Trade development policies and the post-2015 sustainable development agenda
5. Formulation of national policies in the context of existing regional trade agreements

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6. Progress report on promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars
7. Other business
8. Adoption of the report of the Commission to the Trade and Development Board

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. The seventh session of the Trade and Development Commission will be held from 18 to 22 May 2015. The role of the Commission, as defined in paragraph 201 of the Accra Accord, is to conduct policy dialogue on one or two selected issues, consider reports of expert meetings, manage and recommend for approval the work programme of expert meetings within its purview, and promote and strengthen synergies among the three pillars.

2. The substantive agenda items of the seventh session of the Trade and Development Commission were approved on 12 December 2014, during the sixtieth executive session of the Trade and Development Board. This session of the Commission will discuss Trade development policies and the post-2015 sustainable development agenda as well as the formulation of national policies in the context of existing regional trade agreements. It will review and adopt the reports of expert meetings. Furthermore, the Commission will examine relevant activities implemented by the secretariat which have promoted and strengthened synergies among the three pillars.

3. As provided in paragraph 190 of the Accra Accord, the seventh session of the Commission should aim at producing outcomes that are more action-oriented and identify practical solutions to trade and development problems. As stipulated in paragraph 203 of the Accra Accord, the outcomes of the session will be agreed conclusions from the policy dialogue and recommendations to the secretariat achieved within the scheduled time of the session.

Item 1

Election of officers

4. In accordance with rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure of the Main Committees of the Trade and Development Board, the Commission is to elect a Chair, five Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur from among the representatives of its members, taking into account the need to ensure equitable geographical distribution. In accordance with rule 19 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau of the Commission shall consist of seven members: four members from lists A and C combined, two from list B and one from list D, referred to in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) as amended.

5. Accordingly, following the cycle of rotation, the Bureau for the seventh session of the Commission will be as follows: a Chair from list C, a Rapporteur from list A (Africa), two Vice-Chairs from lists A and C combined, two Vice-Chairs from list B and one Vice-Chair from list D.

Item 2

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

6. The agenda was prepared in accordance with the Accra Accord and the Doha Mandate. A programme of work will be circulated prior to the meeting.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/36

Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3

Reports of expert meetings

(a) Reports of the multi-year expert meetings

7. Under item 3 (a), the Commission will review and discuss the outcomes of multi-year expert meetings as follows:

(i) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.7/6

Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation on its second session

TD/B/C.I/MEM.7/9

Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation on its third session

(ii) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.2/31

Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development on its seventh session

(iii) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Promoting Economic Integration and Cooperation

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.6/6

Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Promoting Economic Integration and Cooperation on its second session

(iv) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Enhancing the Enabling Environment at All Levels in Support of Inclusive and Sustainable Development

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.5/6

Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Enhancing the Enabling Environment at All Levels in Support of Inclusive and Sustainable Development on its second session

(b) Reports of the single-year expert meetings

8. Under item 3 (b), the Commission will review and discuss the outcomes of single-year expert meetings as follows:

(i) Expert Meeting on the Impact of Access to Financial Services, including by Highlighting Remittances on Development: Economic Empowerment of Women and Youth

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/EM.6/3 Report of the Expert Meeting on the Impact of Access to Financial Services, including by Highlighting Remittances on Development: Economic Empowerment of Women and Youth

- (ii) *Expert Meeting on Social Inclusion Programmes and Their Impact on Sustainable and Inclusive Development and Growth*

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/EM.7/3 Report of the Expert Meeting on Social Inclusion Programmes and Their Impact on Sustainable and Inclusive Development and Growth

- (c) **Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy**

9. Under agenda item 3 (c), the Commission will review and discuss the report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy on its fourteenth session.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/CLP/34 Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy on its fourteenth session

Item 4

Trade development policies and the post-2015 sustainable development agenda

10. Under this agenda item and keeping in the context of the ongoing preparatory processes towards the third International Conference on Financing for Development and the adoption of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda, the seventh session of the Trade and Development Commission 2015 will consider (a) possible frameworks in which member States can link trade to the achievement of the sustainable development goals under the post-2015 sustainable development agenda; (b) possible designs of a policy mix that will allow member States to make the best use of trade in attaining the three dimensions (economic, social and environmental) of sustainable development; and (c) desirable policy environment and partnerships at the regional and global levels that will enable national level actions to result in an optimal policy mix.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/37 Trade development policies and the post-2015 sustainable development agenda, and formulation of national policies in the context of existing regional trade agreements

Item 5

Formulation of national policies in the context of existing regional trade agreements

11. Under this agenda item, the Commission will review the possible impact that regional trade agreements may exert over the formulation of national development policy. Regional cooperation aimed at achieving the objectives of the post-2015 development agenda, such as sustainable use of natural resources, require intergovernmental cooperation

at the regional and subregional levels, and these arrangements tend to operate on a voluntary basis. On the other hand, regional economic cooperation, through the form of a regional trade agreement, is legally enforceable among member countries. For this reason, certain obligations under a regional trade agreement may impact national capacity to design and implement policies under a broad objective to achieve sustainable development goals. In this regard, trends in regional trade agreements will be highlighted, as well as their capacity to address sustainable development concerns at the national and regional levels.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/37 Trade development policies and the post-2015 sustainable development agenda, and formulation of national policies in the context of existing regional trade agreements

Item 6

Progress report on promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars

12. Under this agenda item, the secretariat will report on progress made in promoting and strengthening the synergies among the three pillars of UNCTAD's work in the areas covered by this Commission. A presentation of the progress accomplished since the last session of this Commission will be made by the Division on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, the Division on Technology and Logistics, and the Special Unit on Commodities.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/CRP.7 Progress report on promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars related to transport and trade facilitation and cross-divisional capacity-building*

TD/B/C.I/CRP.8 Progress report on activities related to the implementation of the provisions of the Doha Mandate and the Accra Accord related to commodities

Item 7

Other business

13. Under this agenda item, the Commission may also wish to consider and recommend to the Trade and Development Board, for approval, the substantive topic(s) for the next session of the Commission.

Item 8

Adoption of the report of the Commission to the Trade and Development Board

14. The report of the seventh session of the Commission will be submitted to the Trade and Development Board.

* Final official title of this document to be confirmed.

